

Message Text

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1966
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 GENEVA 10674

FOR PA AND PA/PRESS, DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
DR. BREZEEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT - PRESS REMARKS

FOLLOWING IS PRESS BRIEFING AT END OF SECOND SESSION,
WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1978, BY HODDING CARTER AT GENEVA
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL:

MR. CARTER: GOOD EVENING. THIS AFTERNOON'S SESSION
INCLUDED A THREE AND ONE-HALF HOUR EXCHANGE ON THE
QUESTION OF SALT. MORE IS EXPECTED TOMORROW MORNING.
THE MEETING WILL RESUME AT 10:30 AT THE SOVIET MISSION.
I AM NOT SURE, WHICH IS TO SAY THAT NO ONE IS SURE,
ABOUT TOMORROW AFTERNOON AS TO WHETHER THERE WILL BE A
SESSION. I AM NOT ABLE TO GIVE YOU A DEFINITE HOUR FOR
MRS. SCHRANSKY FOR OBVIOUS REASONS. THERE IS A
MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD. WHOEVER IT WAS THAT GAVE
ME THE PIECE OF INFORMATION ABOUT A 3 P.M. PRESS
CONFERENCE FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH MR. VANCE WAS
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WRONG IN THAT NO MEETING IS SET WHICH WOULD ALLOW
MRS. SCHRANSKY TO GIVE A 3 P.M. PRESS CONFERENCE
FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH MR. VANCE' THEREFORE, THAT
IS SIMPLY WRONG.

BESIDES THE THREE AND ONE-HALF HOUR MEETING, THERE WAS
A MEETING BETWEEN MR. GROMYKO AND MR. VANCE IN WHICH

THE MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO MR. BREZHNEV WAS CONVEYED. I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU ARE ALL EAGER TO KNOW IN WHAT FORM THAT MESSAGE WAS CONVEYED; EAGER THOUGH I MAY BE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO, NOR TO TELL YOU WHAT WAS IN THE MESSAGE.

THE SECRETARY HAS CHARACTERIZED THE MEETINGS THIS AFTERNOON AS BUSINESS-LIKE AND SERIOUS; I WILL HAVE NO COMMENT ON WHAT OCCURRED IN THE EXCHANGE WHICH WAS MAINTAINED ENTIRELY BY MR. VANCE AND MR. GROMYKO, IF THERE WAS AN EXCHANGE, THAT IS TO SAY REPLY OR CONVERSATION.

QUESTION: YOU MEAN ON SALT?

ANSWER: ON SALT. AND, OF COURSE, STRANGELY ENOUGH, WHEN THE TWO OF THEM MET, ONLY THE TWO OF THEM TALKED.

QUESTION: I MEAN, DID MR. GROMYKO RESPOND TO THE MESSAGE?

ANSWER: I AM REALLY NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO MUCH MORE THAN THE CONVEYING OF THE MESSAGE. THE SCHRANSKY MESSAGE WAS NOT THE ONLY THING DISCUSSED IN THE MEETING BETWEEN MR. VANCE AND MR. GROMYKO. OTHER BI-LATERAL MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED.

QUESTION: HOW LONG DID THAT GO?
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ANSWER: I DON'T HAVE AN EXACT TIME. MR. VANCE WAS BACK HERE BEFORE 7:30. THE MEETING ITSELF RAN 3-1/2 HOURS.

QUESTION: HOW LONG DID THE MEETING ON SCHRANSKY AND OTHER NON-SALT ISSUES LAST?

ANSWER: LESS THAN A HALF HOUR.

QUESTION: WAS THE TET-A-TETE A TETE-A-TETE WITH JUST THE TRANSLATORS?

ANSWER: YES.

QUESTION: DID I UNDERSTAND YOU TO REFER TO THE MESSAGE AS THE 'SCHRANSKY MESSAGE'? WAS THE MESSAGE THEN LIMITED TO THE SCHRANSKY CASE RATHER THAN TO THE SUBJECT OF DISSIDENTS AS A WHOLE, INCLUDING THE GINSBERG AND OTHER CASES?

ANSWER: I AM NOT REALLY GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO INTO THE CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE AT ALL. IT HAS BEEN DESIGNATED IN OTHER FORA AS A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO MR. BREZHNEV ON SCHRANSKY.

QUESTION: IN OFFICIAL FORA? YOU ARE ACCEPTING THIS AS
AN OFFICIAL DEFINITION OF THAT MESSAGE?

ANSWER: IT IS A MESSAGE ON THAT TRIAL, AS I UNDERSTAND
IT. BUT I WOULD NOT EXCLUDE ITS INCLUDING OTHER THINGS;
I AM SIMPLY NOT GOING TO GO INTO IT.

QUESTION: IS THE MIDDLE EAST INCLUDED IN THE BI-LATERAL
MATTERS?

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FOR PA AND PA/PRESS, DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
DR. BREZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

ANSWER: NO, I BELIEVE THAT SUCH A MATTER AS THE
MIDDLE EAST COULD ARISE TOMORROW. SALT AND OTHER
MATTERS ARE ON THE AGENDA FOR TOMORROW. THE PROBLEM ON
TIME IS OBVIOUSLY THAT THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE TEND TO
BELIEVE THINGS GO LONGER THAN THOSE WHO ARE WAITING,
WHICH IS A REVERSAL OF THE ORDINARY HUMAN REACTION.

QUESTION: CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE INTERVIEW ANDY YOUNG GAVE
TO "LE MATIN"?

ANSWER: I HAVE NOT READ THE WHOLE INTERVIEW. WHAT DO
YOU WANT TO ASK ME ABOUT?

QUESTION: WELL, PARTICULARLY, DOES THE STATE
DEPARTMENT, THE SECRETARY, SHARE THE BELIEF THAT THERE

ARE THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE UNITED STATES?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT.

QUESTION: DOES THE SECRETARY BELIEVE THAT RELATIONS
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BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES ARE GOOD
ON EVERY LEVEL EXCEPT PUBLICLY?

ANSWER: THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS SPOKEN TO THE
QUESTION OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND
HAS NOTED THAT THEY HAVE ASPECTS, WHICH INCLUDE THEIR
PUBLIC ASPECTS, BOTH OF COMPETITION AND OF COOPERATION
AND THEREFORE THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

QUESTION: HAS THE SECRETARY SPOKEN TO MR. YOUNG ABOUT
THE REMARK?

ANSWER: THE SECRETARY HAS NOT; THE SECRETARY JUST
GOT BACK.

QUESTION: DOES HE INTEND TO TONIGHT?

ANSWER: I HAVE NO IDEA.

QUESTION: DO YOU FIND REMARKS LIKE THIS DAMAGING TO THE
SECRETARY'S POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND DISSIDENTS?

ANSWER: I REALLY WOULDN'T WANT TO TRY TO
CHARACTERIZE THEM IN THAT WAY. I WOULD SIMPLY SAY THAT
THE SECRETARY HAS SPOKEN SPECIFICALLY ABOUT OUR
POSITION ON THE SCHRANSKY MATTER AND THE RELATED
MATTERS, INCLUDING THE TRIAL OF MR. GINSBERG. THE
PRESIDENT HAS SPOKEN ON IT AND THAT IS THE DEFINITIVE
STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN POSITION.

QUESTION: SUGGESTING THAT MR. YOUNG IS OFF THE MARK.

ANSWER: I CAN ONLY DEAL WITH SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT
MR. YOUNG'S REMARKS. I REALLY HAVE NOT READ THE WHOLE
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STORY.

QUESTION: WHAT YOU ARE SAYING THEN IS, IN EFFECT, THAT
THIS REPRESENTS HIS PERSONAL VIEWPOINT BUT NOT THE

SECRETARY'S?

ANSWER: ON THE QUESTIONS YOU HAVE RAISED TO ME, I HAVE EXPRESSED WHAT THE SECRETARY'S VIEWPOINTS ARE, WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEWPOINTS ARE, WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWPOINTS ARE.

QUESTION: WOULD YOU WANT TO COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S REACTION WHEN HE HEARD THESE REMARKS?

ANSWER: NO.

QUESTION: IS THE SCHRANSKY MATTER NOW CLOSED UNLESS THE RUSSIANS BRING IT UP? SO FAR AS GENEVA IS CONCERNED? THAT IS, INsofar AS THE MEETINGS BETWEEN VANCE AND GROMYKO ARE CONCERNED, IS IT A CLOSED MATTER UNLESS GROMYKO HAPPENS TO BRING IT UP?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IN THE CONTEXT OF OTHER BI-LATERAL MATTERS IT COULD ARISE AGAIN. I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: THE THREE HOURS OR SO THAT THEY MET, WAS IT ALL GROMYKO EXPLORING WHAT THE AMERICANS HAD PUT FORWARD IN THE MORNING OR RESPONDING TO IT, OR WERE THEY PUTTING FORWARD A NEW SET OF IDEAS OF THEIR OWN?

ANSWER: I THINK THE ONLY WAY I CAN DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED IS THAT THERE WAS A FULL EXPOSITION OF THE POSITION OF BOTH SIDES AND I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO CHARACTERIZE WHETHER THINGS WERE NEW OR WHETHER THERE WERE NEW PROPOSALS OR ANYTHING OF THAT SORT. THE SUBJECT MATTER WAS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR PA AND PA/PRESS, DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
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OUTSTANDING ISSUES AS YOU KNOW THEM TO EXIST AND
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK WHICH HAS BEEN GENERALLY
DISCUSSED WITH YOU ELSEWHERE.

QUESTION: CAN YOU SAY WHETHER PROGRESS IS BEING MADE?

ANSWER: I DON'T THINK I CAN CHARACTERIZE WHAT HAS
HAPPENED YET WITH WORDS SUCH AS 'PROGRESS'. I THINK
THAT THERE IS A REASON FOR SAYING 'BUSINESS-LIKE'.

QUESTION: YOU SAID THIS MORNING THAT VANCE PRESENTED
HIS VIEWS.

ANSWER: HE HAS CONVEYED OUR POSITION, YES.

QUESTION: DOES THIS MEAN THAT THIS AFTERNOON THE
SOVIETS PICKED UP THESE VIEWS AND ANSWERED THE VIEWS
AS EXPRESSED THIS MORNING BY VANCE?

ANSWER: YES, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

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QUESTION: WOULD YOU LET US KNOW IF THERE IS ANY
CONTACT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG?

ANSWER: I WILL CERTAINLY RESPOND TO THE QUESTION
WHEN YOU ASK ME AGAIN. I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY PLANS
FOR A CONTACT RIGHT NOW AND THAT MEANS LITERALLY
WHAT IT SAYS.

QUESTION: WHEN YOU SAY THAT THE PRIVATE CONVERSATION
INCLUDED THE DELIVERY OF THE MESSAGE AND 'BI-LATERAL
ISSUES' NOT INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST, IS IT SAFE TO
ASSUME THAT CONVERSATION WAS CONFINED TO ONLY THE
MESSAGE AND DISSIDENT ISSUES OR WAS THERE ANYTHING
ELSE?

ANSWER: NO, I WOULDN'T MAKE ANY ASSUMPTIONS. I HAVE REALLY DONE THE BEST I CAN ON THAT.

QUESTION: WERE THERE BI-LATERAL ISSUES IN ADDITION TO THE MESSAGE?

ANSWER: YES, IN ADDITION TO THE MESSAGE.

QUESTION: DID THE QUESTION OF SWAPS COME UP?

ANSWER: I REALLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO INTO SPECIFICS THAT WERE IN THE CONVERSATION. I WOULD NOT WANT ANYBODY TO WALK OUT OF HERE WITH A STORY SAYING A STRONG POSSIBILITY WAS HELD OUT THAT THE QUESTION OF SWAPS WAS DISCUSSED.

QUESTION: HOW ABOUT ECONOMIC SANCTIONS? IS THAT THE KIND OF BI-LATERAL ISSUE THAT WAS DISCUSSED?
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ANSWER: NO.

QUESTION: NO?

ANSWER: I SAY "NO" TO PREFACE SAYING THAT I REALLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GO INTO WHAT MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED BEYOND WHAT I HAVE ALREADY TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CONVEYANCE OF THE MESSAGE.
QUESTION: SO, YOU ARE NOT SAYING IT WASN'T DISCUSSED.

ANSWER: RIGHT, I AM NOT SAYING.

QUESTION: AMBASSADOR YOUNG IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "YOU CAN'T STOP THE WORLD BECAUSE OF THE TRIAL, NO MATTER WHERE IT IS". IS THAT A COMMENT THAT THE SECRETARY CAN ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH?

ANSWER: THAT IS SORT OF AN INTERESTING COMMENT. I HADN'T HEARD ANYONE OFFER ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD TO STOP THE WORLD ON THE BASIS OF THE TRIALS AND SO I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.

QUESTION: THE SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. HAVE MADE VERY STRONG STATEMENTS CONCERNING SPECIFICALLY THE SCHRANSKY TRIAL. THIS SEEMS TO BELITTLE THE IMPORT OF WHAT IT IS THAT BOTH LEADERS ARE TRYING TO GET ACROSS.

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW. I WOULDN'T WANT TO TRY TO READ

BEHIND WORDS. LET ME SAY THAT THE MESSAGE WHICH THE
SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE PRESIDENT HAVE CONVEYED,
INTEND TO CONVEY AND DO CONVEY IS THAT THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA, ALONG WITH NUMEROUS OTHER COUNTRIES,
HAS STRONG CONCERN ABOUT THE TRIALS OF MR. SCHRANSKY
AND MR. GINSBERG, AND WHAT THESE TRIALS SEEM TO
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INDICATE. WE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE TRIALS ARE NOT
LINKED TO NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON HERE, BUT CANNOT
HELP BUT HAVE, AND WILL HAVE, AN EFFECT UPON THE CLIMATE
OF OUR RELATIONS, AND CAN ONLY AGGRAVATE THAT
CLIMATE.

QUESTION: ARE YOU PARAPHRASING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE?

ANSWER: I AM PARAPHRASING FROM THE SECRETARY AND
MR. POWELL AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMEN ON
THIS SUBJECT. AND I AM SEPARATING, AS MR. POWELL

VERY CAREFULLY DID AGAIN YESTERDAY ON BEHALF OF
THE PRESIDENT AND AS THE SECRETARY DID ON SATURDAY
AND ON MONDAY ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT, THE
QUESTION OF THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS FROM THE OVERALL
EFFECT OTHERWISE OF THESE TRIALS. I WOULD NOTE
THAT THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT, AS HAVE OTHER
ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMEN, THAT WE ARE REVIEWING OTHER
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ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WHICH ARE
INTENDED TO EXPAND UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN
VIEW OF THESE TRIALS.

QUESTION: YOU JUST SPOKE ABOUT OUR STRONG CONCERN
ABOUT THE TRIALS AND WHAT THESE TRIALS SEEM TO
INDICATE. COULD YOU EXPLAIN TO ME? I DON'T QUITE
UNDERSTAND JUST WHAT THEY SEEM TO INDICATE.

ANSWER: YES, WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID IN HIS
STATEMENT--A DISREGARD FOR DUE PROCESS AND, WHAT
HAS BEEN SAID IN OTHER PLACES AND AT OTHER TIMES,
A FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE TERMS OF THE HELSINKI
AGREEMENT AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WHICH
WERE SIGNED NOT MERELY BY THOSE WHO ARE PROTESTING
THESE TRIALS BUT BY THOSE WHO PERPETRATE THEM.

QUESTION: HODDING, THE PREVIOUS QUESTION, IT
SEEMED TO ME, IS THAT THE EQUATING OF POLITICAL
PRISONERS, WHETHER THERE ARE HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS,
IN THE UNITED STATES WITH THE SCHRANSKY TRIAL
WOULD SEEM TO UNDERCUT THE MESSAGE THE PRESIDENT
AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE ARE TRYING TO IMPART TO
THE RUSSIANS. DO YOU DISAGREE WITH THAT?

ANSWER: I REALLY AM NOT GOING TO TRY TO CHARACTERIZE IN
ANY WAY THE EFFECT OF WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAD TO SAY.
I WOULD ONLY NOTE THAT THE POSITION WE HAVE ON THOSE
TRIALS IS VERY CLEAR. I WOULD ALSO NOTE, TO REPEAT,
WE DO NOT AGREE THAT THERE ARE HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS
OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE UNITED STATES. IN FACT,
I CANNOT THINK OF ONE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH
HAS EVER INDICATED THAT THERE WERE THAT MANY POLITICAL
PRISONERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

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QUESTION: HOW MANY ARE THERE?

ANSWER: ACCORDING TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, WHICH IS THE ONLY SOURCE THAT I KNOW OF, THERE ARE LESS THAN 20. 17, I BELIEVE, WAS THE LAST COUNT.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE IN PRINCIPLE WHETHER THERE ARE ONE, OR TWO, OR THOUSANDS?

ANSWER: WE HAVE ALWAYS INDICATED, AS A MATTER OF FACT, THAT WE HAVE NEVER THOUGHT THAT WE WERE PERFECT, NOR THOUGHT THAT ANY NATION HAD TO BE PERFECT TO SPEAK TO THE QUESTION OF OBSERVANCE OF BASIC DOCUMENTS THAT A NUMBER OF NATIONS SIGNED, AND I AM NOT NOW HERE SPEAKING AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NATION WHICH CONSIDERS ITSELF TO BE PERFECT IN ANY REGARD.

QUESTION: (NINA SUTTON, "LE MATIN" REPORTER WHO HAD INTERVIEWED AMBASSADOR YOUNG): I THINK THIS IS WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID. HE DIDN'T SAY THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN JAIL. HE SAID THERE WERE HUNDREDS AND MAYBE THOUSANDS THAT HE COULD CONSIDER POLITICAL PRISONERS. THERE'S A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.

ANSWER: YES, I HAVE READ THE CONTEXT.

QUESTION: DID GROMYKO RAISE ANY SUBJECTS DURING THE BI-LATERAL SECTION OF THE TALKS?

ANSWER: I AM NOT REALLY ABLE TO DESCRIBE HOW THOSE TALKS WENT.

QUESTION: HAS HE WARNED THE SECRETARY EITHER HERE OR IN SOME OTHER WAY THAT THE RUSSIANS WOULD REVEAL THE NAME OF ANOTHER AMERICAN DIPLOMAT CAUGHT SPYING
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IN THE SOVIET UNION?

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ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: THERE'S AN AGENCY REPORT ON THAT.

ANSWER: WHAT KIND OF AGENCY? I'M NEVER SURE WHEN
AN AGENCY MAN ASKS ME THAT WHETHER HE MEANS HIS
KIND OF AGENCY OR ANOTHER KIND OF AGENCY. I DON'T KNOW.
I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THAT REPORT.

QUESTION: TOMORROW WILL THEY DISCUSS SALT?

ANSWER: SALT WILL CERTAINLY BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER
MATTERS PROBABLY.

QUESTION: IS IT THAT ONE OR THE OTHER SIDE MUST COME
BACK WITH A SPECIFIC ANSWER AND RESPONSE THAT COULD
THEN LEAD TO SOME KIND OF AGREEMENT OR SOMETHING
CLOSE TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF A PARTICULAR POINT?

ANSWER: THEY STILL HAVE MATTERS TO DISCUSS. I THINK
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THAT'S THE BEST I CAN DO.

QUESTION: HAS THERE BEEN ANY MEETING OF THE MINDS
ON ONE OR TWO OF THE MAJOR OUTSTANDING DISAGREEMENTS?

ANSWER: I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO BE ABLE TO
COMMENT ON THAT AT ALL.

QUESTION: WILL THERE BE SOME ROOM IN THE NEW SALT
TREATY FOR NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS?

ANSWER: I THINK THAT IN ITEMIZING THE AREAS OF CONCERN

OVER THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS HAS BEEN ONE OF THOSE WHICH HAS BEEN ITEMIZED. NOW, IF YOU ARE SPEAKING OF THE TREATY OR THE PROTOCOL, IN SOME FORM NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS WILL BE ADDRESSED.

QUESTION: WILL THERE BE ROOM IN THE TREATY FOR THE TWO SUPER POWERS TO HAVE NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS?

ANSWER: OBVIOUSLY, ONE OF THE MATTERS UNDER DISCUSSION IS THAT OF NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS.

QUESTION: WHAT I MEAN IS, IS THE ALTERNATIVE NO NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS, OR SOME, OR HOW MANY?

ANSWER: I THINK YOU ARE AWARE FROM STORIES WHOSE ACCURACY I WOULDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH HERE THAT VARIOUS PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE INCLUDING NO NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS THROUGH X POINT, NO NEW MISSILE SYSTEMS THROUGH POINT X PLUS 5, ETC. WHAT WE ARE NEGOTIATING IS HOW WE DEAL WITH NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

QUESTION: BUT THOSE ARE ALL POSSIBILITIES? THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE NO FORECLOSURES?

ANSWER: I THINK THAT EACH SIDE HAS MADE ITS POSITION VERY CLEAR ON IT AND, THEREFORE, SOME THINGS HAVE OBVIOUSLY BEEN FORECLOSED.

QUESTION: DOES THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE OCTOBER 1 SOVIET UNION/AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE ON THE MIDDLE EAST?

ANSWER: THAT COMMUNIQUE WAS A BASIC RESTATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN POSITION. THERE HAS BEEN NO RESTATEMENT OF THAT.

QUESTION: WOULD THAT BE A PART OF THE DISCUSSION ON THE MIDDLE EAST?

ANSWER: IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE CONTEXT OF THE DISCUSSION IS GOING TO TAKE THAT FORM IN LONDON. THE INITIAL STARTING POINT FOR THE DISCUSSION IN LONDON IS GOING TO BE THE TWO PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD BY THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS.

QUESTION: JUST TO MAKE IT CLEAR, THIS BI-LATERAL PART OF THE DISCUSSION, THE 15 TO 30 MINUTE SESSION, WAS IT AT THE END OF TODAY'S DISCUSSIONS?

ANSWER: YES.

QUESTION: IS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING NOW THAT THIS AFTERNOON GROMYKO RESPONDED, MADE HIS PRESENTATION, BASICALLY IN RESPONSE PERHAPS A LITTLE MORE TO WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID THIS MORNING AND THAT WHAT THEY DO TOMORROW ON SALT WILL INVOLVE FURTHER SALT ISSUES, OR DOES MR. GROMYKO HAVE MORE TO SAY THAT HE COULDN'T FIT IN TODAY?

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ANSWER: I WOULD NOT LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY
HAVE FINISHED THEIR CONVERSATION.

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT EITHER
SIDE NEEDS TO CONSULT ITS PRINCIPALS?

ANSWER: I THINK THAT NORMALLY AT THE END OF THESE
SESSIONS THEY CONSULT THEIR PRINCIPALS, AND THAT
HAS BEEN THE PATTERN UP TO NOW. I DON'T SEE ANY
REASON WHY IT WOULD ALTER.

QUESTION: MORE SPECIFICALLY, ARE SOME DECISIONS
CALLED FOR AS A RESULT OF TODAY'S CONVERSATIONS?

ANSWER: I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER THAT
QUESTION.

QUESTION: CAN YOU TELL US IF THE SECRETARY IS DOING
ANYTHING ELSE HERE IN GENEVA OTHER THAN THE TALKS
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WITH GROMYKO AND TALKS WITH MRS. SCHRANSKY AND
PERHAPS TALK TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG?

ANSWER: THE SECRETARY IS HAVING SUPPER TONIGHT
WITH BOB STRAUSS.

QUESTION: ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC OR PESSIMISTIC ABOUT
THE RESULTS OF THE SALT TALKS?

ANSWER: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO THAT.

QUESTION: WHEN YOU SAID THE TALKS WERE BUSINESS-LIKE,
WERE YOU TALKING JUST ABOUT SALT OR ABOUT BI-LATERAL
MATTERS AS WELL?

ANSWER: I WAS TALKING ABOUT SALT SPECIFICALLY. I AM
NOT CHARACTERIZING THEIR CONVERSATIONS.

QUESTION: THOSE WORDS WERE OBVIOUSLY CAREFULLY CHOSEN.
THEY ARE NOT THE MOST FLEXIBLE, FORTHCOMING WORDS. ARE
YOU SAYING THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE BUSINESS-LIKE AND
SERIOUS BECAUSE OF THE EFFECT THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE HAS
HAD ON THEM OR JUST BECAUSE OF SALT ITSELF?

ANSWER: BECAUSE OF SALT.

QUESTION: IS THE UNITED STATES DETERMINED TO REACH
A NEW SALT AGREEMENT THIS YEAR?

ANSWER: THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO REACH A NEW
SALT AGREEMENT AT THE TIME IT HAS A TREATY IN ITS
HANDS WHICH MEETS THE SECURITY NEEDS OF THE UNITED
STATES, WHICH IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES
GENERALLY, AND WHICH WILL ADVANCE THE PROCESS FOR WHICH
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SALT IS INTENDED, WHICH IS THE LIMITATION OF
STRATEGIC WEAPONS.

QUESTION: RIGHT, MY QUESTION...(UNINTELLIGIBLE). BUT
ARE YOU 'DETERMINED' TO GET ONE?

ANSWER: YES, ON THE TERMS I JUST OUTLINED.

QUESTION: AND ARE THE RUSSIANS SHOWING DETERMINATION
TO COMPLETE THE AGREEMENT?

ANSWER: I CAN'T GO BEYOND THEIR PUBLIC STATEMENTS.
THEY HAVE SO INDICATED. END BRIEFING.VANDEN HEUVEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA10674
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780286-0623
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780766/aaaacdac.tel
Line Count: 770
Litigation Code IDs:
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Office: ACTION PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 15
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2025005
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT - PRESS REMARKS FOLLOWING IS PRESS BRIEFING AT END OF SECOND SESSION, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1978, BY HODDING CARTER AT GEN
TAGS: OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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